

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Walla Walla Veterans Home 92 Wainwright Drive | Walla Walla, Washington 99362 | 509-394-6800 | 509-527-4199 (fax)

April 27, 2022

Dear WWVH Residents, Families, Representatives, and Staff:

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying these beautiful early Spring days!

Today we identified another staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19. This brings the total number of positive staff to 3 since April 22, 2022. Currently there are zero positive cases in residents. We continue to follow guidance from the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health, Center for Disease Control, CMS, and the WA State Department of Health to ensure we are doing everything possible to safeguard our residents and staff.

<u>Visitation</u>: No changes to current protocols. We sure have been enjoying seeing many of you back on campus spending time with your loved one(s), and I would like to personally thank you for caring enough to continue following PPE guidelines for healthcare facilities when you're on campus. It's been a long and rough road over the past couple of years, and so many people are feeling burned out when it comes to things like mask-wearing and social distancing. In that light, your willingness to actively support the health and wellness of your loved one(s), and the rest of the WWVH residents and staff, is especially noticeable - and deeply appreciated.

Resident Testing: All residents tested negative on 4/22-23 and are currently in the process of being tested again.

<u>Employee Screening, Testing, and Vaccinations</u>: All WWVH staff have been fully vaccinated and are currently being tested for COVID-19 twice weekly. In addition, all staff are screened upon arrival to work each day. The screening process includes a series of questions around whether symptoms are present, whether they've been exposed to a positive case, and a temperature check. Staff are asked to report any symptoms that may present after they arrived at work.

<u>Facility, PPE, Housekeeping</u>: Our Housekeeping, Procurement, and Maintenance departments continue to work seven days a week to assure that the facility is clean and well-stocked with PPE.

You may access up-to-date WDVA COVID-19 data and information any time by visiting the following website: https://www.dva.wa.gov/covid.

Respectfully,

Lonna Leno Administrator Walla Walla Veterans Home